

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 956**

FINAL READING

Introduced by Schimek, 27; Ashford, 20; Dubas, 34.

Read first time January 14, 2008

Committee: Appropriations

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Job Training Cash Fund; to amend  
2 sections 81-1202 and 81-1205, Reissue Revised Statutes  
3 of Nebraska, and section 81-1201.21, Revised Statutes  
4 Supplement, 2007; to provide for small, rural, or poverty  
5 area employer grants; to change provisions relating to  
6 job training grants; to harmonize provisions; and to  
7 repeal the original sections.  
8 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Section 81-1201.21, Revised Statutes  
2 Supplement, 2007, is amended to read:

3           81-1201.21 (1) There is hereby created the Job Training  
4 Cash Fund. The fund shall be under the direction of the Department  
5 of Economic Development. Money may be transferred to the fund  
6 pursuant to subdivision (1)(b)(iv) of section 48-621 and from  
7 the Cash Reserve Fund at the direction of the Legislature. The  
8 department shall establish a subaccount for all money transferred  
9 from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Job Training Cash Fund on or  
10 after July 1, 2005. Any unexpended or unobligated balance remaining  
11 within such subaccount on July 1, 2010, shall be transferred by the  
12 State Treasurer to the Cash Reserve Fund no later than July 10,  
13 2010. Any obligated amount not transferred from the subaccount that  
14 remains unexpended on July 1, 2009, shall be transferred by the  
15 State Treasurer to the Cash Reserve Fund no later than December 31,  
16 2011.

17           (2) The department shall use the ~~fund~~ Job Training  
18 Cash Fund to provide reimbursements for job training activities,  
19 including employee assessment, preemployment training, on-the-job  
20 training, training equipment costs, and other reasonable costs  
21 related to helping industry and business locate or expand  
22 in Nebraska, or to provide upgrade skills training of the  
23 existing labor force necessary to adapt to new technology or the  
24 introduction of new product lines.

25           (3) The department shall establish a subaccount within

1 the fund to provide job training grants targeted to small  
2 employers, rural employers, and poverty area employers meeting  
3 one of the following criteria: (a) Employ twenty-five or fewer  
4 employees, (b) located in rural areas of Nebraska, or (c) located  
5 in areas of high concentration of poverty within the corporate  
6 limits of a city or village consisting of one or more contiguous  
7 census tracts, as determined by the most recent federal decennial  
8 census, which contain a percentage of persons below the poverty  
9 line of greater than thirty percent, and all census tracts  
10 contiguous to such tract or tracts, as determined by the most  
11 recent federal decennial census. The department shall calculate the  
12 amount of prior year investment income earnings accruing to the  
13 fund and allocate such amount to the subaccount for small, rural,  
14 or poverty area employer grants.

15           (4) Any money in the fund available for investment  
16 shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to  
17 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds  
18 Investment Act.

19           Sec. 2. Section 81-1202, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
20 Nebraska, is amended to read:

21           81-1202 For purposes of sections 81-1202 to 81-1210 and  
22 section 3 of this act, job training grant means a grant from the  
23 Job Training Cash Fund or any nonfederal funding source within the  
24 Department of Economic Development awarded by the department.

25           Sec. 3. Whenever practicable, the Department of Economic

1 Development shall give priority consideration to training services  
2 offered by community college areas.

3           Sec. 4. Section 81-1205, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
4 Nebraska, is amended to read:

5           81-1205 A business which is awarded a job training  
6 grant shall provide annual performance reports to the Department  
7 of Economic Development and a final performance report upon the  
8 completion of the project. The department shall provide an annual  
9 report by December 1 of each year to the Appropriations Committee  
10 of the Legislature. The report shall include information on each  
11 active grant, including specific information regarding the number  
12 of positions to be trained, whether new or existing employees  
13 are to be trained, the length of time that the project has  
14 been active, the amount of funding committed to the project, the  
15 amount of funding paid out to date, and the projected completion  
16 date. The report shall also provide information on grants closed  
17 during the reporting year, including the total number of employees  
18 trained, whether new or existing employees were trained, total  
19 project expenditures, and the duration time of the project. The  
20 department shall also provide information summarizing the use of  
21 community college areas to provide training services and list  
22 specific projects where a community college area is providing  
23 all or a component of the training services. If private or  
24 inhouse training services are used, the department shall provide  
25 information regarding the name of the private or inhouse training

1 service and the qualifications of the training service.

2           Sec. 5. Original sections 81-1202 and 81-1205, Reissue  
3 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 81-1201.21, Revised  
4 Statutes Supplement, 2007, are repealed.